St. John the Theologian

VESPERs: Stichera at “Lord, I Have Cried”

10 Stichera: 3 from the Pentecostarion; 4 for the Evangelist

*Tone One: “Joy of the ranks of heaven……”*

The beholder of ineffable revelations
and recounter of the highest mysteries of God,
the son of Zebedee,
who set down in writing the Gospel of Christ,
hath taught us to theologize //
concerning the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. (twice)

The harp of heavenly songs played by God,
The recorder of mysteries, the divinely-eloquent mouth,
doth beautifully chant the hymn of hymns;
for, moving his lips as though they were strings,
and using his tongue as a plectrum //
he prayeth that we be saved.

Proclaiming with thy thunderous tongue the hidden word of divine wisdom,
O beloved of God,
thou ever criest out, continually moving thy lips:
In the beginning was the Word!
And thou instructest every man //
in the knowledge of God.

[Then three for St. Arsenius on the following pages]
And 3 Stichera of the Venerable Father Arsenius

Tone Eight: “O All-Glorious Wonder...”

O divinely-wise father Arsenius, having illumined thy mind with fountains of tears, thou didst converse with God, and by unceasing purification and effulgence was shown to be a most radiant pillar of piety, shining as

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with fire, O blessed one, O thou boast of monks. And now, by thy supplications, do thou preserve us all.

Another to St. Arsenius

O divinely wise father Arsenius, having girt thy mind round about with abstinenence, thou didst cause it
to ascend to the Primal Cause, and, forsaking

the turbulence of the world and shunning its tumults,

thou didst truly mingle purity of mind with the uttermost desire, O blessed and all-wise one.

Another stichera to Arsenius

O venerable father Arsenius, seeking after
God, and piously desiring to be illuminated

by His radiant effulgence, thou didst abandon all the splendor of high position and the imperial palace, and didst receive an immortal inheritance, abiding now with Christ, O divine...
Glory to the Father…Tone Two

O ye of the race of man,
let us offer goodly praise as is meet
to the beloved and virginal John, the son of thunder,
the foundation of the words of God,
the author of theology,
the first preacher of the truth of the dogmas of the wisdom of God;
for having the divine continually within him, he said:

**In the beginning was the Word,**
Who is inseparable from the Father and of the same essence with the Father,
revealing to us through himself the Orthodoxy of the Holy Trinity.
And he hath likewise shown us that He createth with the Father
and beareth life and the light of truth.
O awesome wonder! O uttermost wisdom!
For, full of love, he was also filled with theology
through glory, honor and faith, as a founder of our pure Faith.
Wherefore, we shall receive everlasting blessings //
on the day of judgement.

*[Now and ever… from the Pentecostarion]*